AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1-4. Canceled

5. (Currently Amended) [[The]] A network relay device ~~according to claim 1,~~ which performs communication in order to relay from a first network to a second network comprising:

a first interface which is connected to a first network and receives contents information encrypted by key information;

a second interface which is connected to a second network which is different from the first network and sends the contents information; and

a notification section which detects whether or not the key information changed via the first interface, and which, if the key information is changed, notifies a key change notification signal to the second network via the second interface;

wherein the first interface and the second interface send/receive the contents information encrypted with the key information in accordance with DTCP (Digital Transmission Content Protection) standard.

6. (Currently Amended) [[The]] A network relay device ~~according to claim 1,~~ which performs communication in order to relay from a first network to a second network comprising:

a first interface which is connected to a first network and receives contents information encrypted by key information;

a second interface which is connected to a second network which is different from the first network and sends the contents information; and

a notification section which detects whether or not the key information changed via the first interface, and which, if the key information is changed, notifies a key change notification signal to the second network via the second interface;

wherein the notification section obtains the key information by using a command for inquiring the key information based on the DTCP standard, and determines whether or not the key information is changed by comparing the obtained key information with the prior key information.

7. (Original) A communication device comprising:

a communication section which performs a communication processing for contents information encrypted by key information with a communication device on a network via an interface connected to the network and other network relay device connected to the other network; and

a control section which, when the communication section receives a key change notification signal from the network relay device via the interface, sends a signal to obtain new key information to the communication device on the other network, decrypts the contents information on a basis of the new key information, and outputs the decrypted information.

8. - 11. (Canceled)

12. (Currently Amended) [[The]] A network relay method according to claim 8, performed by a network relay device having a first interface which is connected to a first network and receives contents information encrypted with key information and a second interface which is connected to a second network which is different from the first network and sends the contents information to a network relay device to be relayed, the method comprising the steps of:

inquiring whether or not the key information is changed via the first interface; and

receiving an answer signal to the inquiry, and if the key information is changed, notifying a key change notification signal to the second network via the second interface wherein the first interface receives and the second interface sends the contents information encrypted with the key information based on DTCP standard.

13. (Canceled)